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CAROVANO NAMED PRESIDENT SEARCH IS OVER ONCE MORE

Plans To Hire Vice-President Soon

J. Martin Carovano is the 16th president of Hamilton College. His appointment was effective at noon yesterday and was announced at a special faculty meeting this afternoon by Coleman Burke, chairman of the Board of Trustees.

The 13—month presidential search ended with the Executive Committee of the Board's ratification of the Search Committee's rec o mmendation to appoint Carovano. Carovano was informed of the decision by phone yesterday morning. He accepted immediately.

"I'm honored to have been asked, I'm pleased, and I'm looking forward to it," the new president said. "I'm flattered and a little bit proud."

Carovano has been acting president of the college since July 1, 1973. In an interview last night in his Buttrick Hall office, Carovano said that now that he had become president, he would move ahead with the search for a new vice-president for resources and development and a new dean of the college.

The new president said that he planned to appoint Eugene Lewis, presently acting provost, to the post of provost if Lewis was amenable. Lewis has been acting provost since January 17.

Chairman Burke said of Carovano, "I think we have a superb man as our next president. In the time that he has served as acting president, Martin Carovano has given Hamilton College wise and effective leadership," he said. "His performance on the job, and his outstanding personal qualities, led the Search Committee to choose him from among the many outstanding candidates who were considered."

"I am particularly pleased at the selection," said Kirkland President Samuel F. Babbitt, "because I know what the working relationship is, and it is a very good one. It is a proven, good relationship."

The Presidential Search Committee, which nominated Carovano Saturday at a meeting in New York, began its deliberations soon after Hamilton's 15th president, John W. Chandler, announced his resignation to assume the presidency of Williams College. Last December it was announced that the Hamilton presidency had been accepted by Joseph J. Sisco. In January, however, Sisco notified the college that he was remaining in the State Department at the urging of Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger.

The Search Committee

continued on page two

One Committee, Two Searches

News Analysis

BY DOUG GLUCROFT

The search committee which ended their work in the selection of J. Martin Carovano was looking for a different kind of man than it did when it chose Joseph J. Sisco although the second search was ostensibly a mere continuation of the first one.

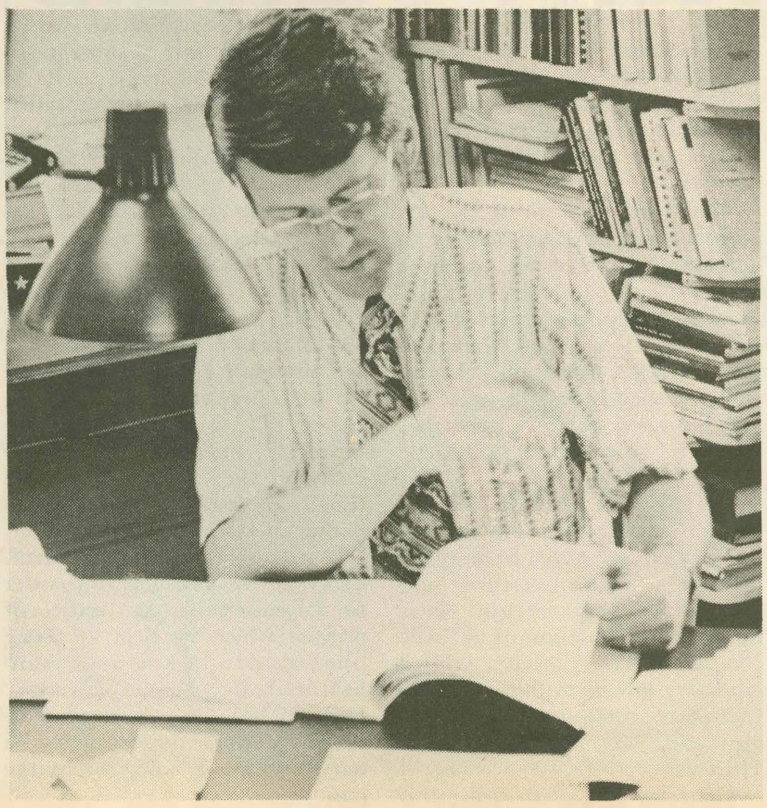
During the nine-month searcy prededing the "Sisco debacle," there were indications from many quarters that Hamilton was specifically looking for someone with public prestige. It was felt by some connected with the college that the Administration already possessed strong budgetary and academic leadership in J. Martin Carovano and Stephen G. Kurtz, respectively.

During both searches, the goal undoubtedly was to hire the "best man". However, the second search brought about a re-evaluation of what kind of person is best for Hamilton. The new emphasis was apparently on finding a capable administrator who was with an academic institution.

The shift in emphasis is discernible when one considers that of the three final candidates in the first search, two were then members of the United States Government, and one was in academic work. Carovano and Kurtz had withdrawn their names early in the proceedings possibly because of the realization that

continued on page two

President Carovano will meet informally with Hamilton and Kirkland students and other members of the community tonight between 7 and 8 pm in the second-floor lounge of the Bristol Campus Center. The reception is being sponsored by the Hamilton Student Senate. Refreshments will be served.



Carovano At Hamilton: Professor To President

"When I was a little boy and people asked me what I wanted to be, I never said 'a college president,'" said J. Martin Carovano, hours after he was appointed the 16th president of Hamilton College.

Carovano, 38, rose quickly through the administrative ranks here. Three years ago, Carovano, then associate professor of economics specializing in public finance, was appointed acting provost. During the summer of 1972, he became permanent provost, only to become acting president after the resignation of Jown W. Chandler last year.

Carovano, who lived on Griffin Road in a house he helped build, will now move into the President's house on College Hill Road.

"We have some mixed emotions about moving," said Carovano's wife, Barbara, "but I'm sure we'll enjoy it as time goes on."

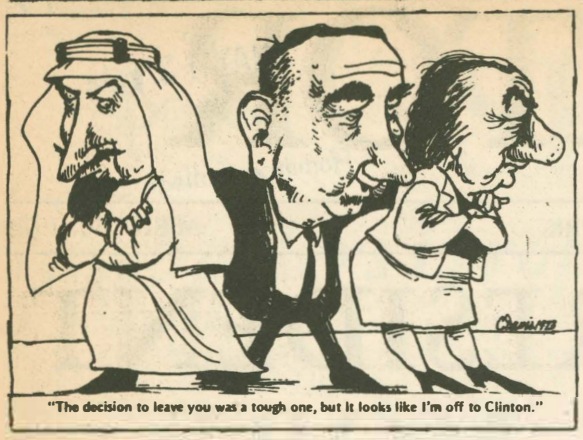
"In many ways, it's nice we've had this acting presidency," she said, referring to the past year during which the President, she, and their children have had a trial run as first family of the college.

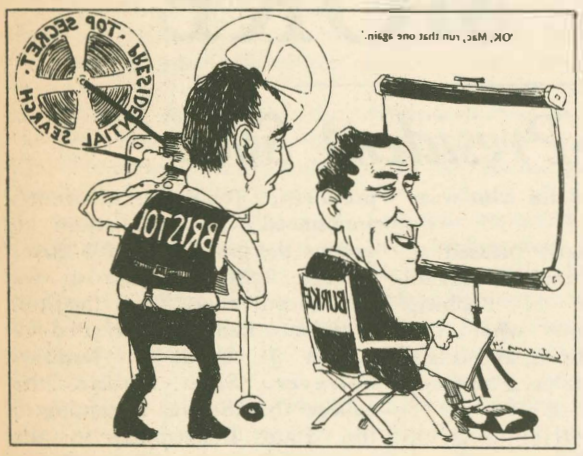
As acting president, Carovano faced a twenty day maintenance workers strike on both campuses. The dispute, which disrupted college services, forced Carovano into decision—making early in the life of the acting administration which was supposed to avoid major decisions.

Once Joseph Sisco, appointed president December 5, stepped down January 7 to join Henry Kissinger in Middle East peace negotiations, it seemed apparent that the acting administration could no longer continue its holding pattern.

During the winter, Carovano led the college through the energy crisis, when Hamilton, dependent largely upon fuel oil for heat, suffered cutbacks in allocations of 15 and 25 percent. Thermostats were turned down to 65 degrees.

continued on page two


"The decision to leave you was a tough one, but it looks like I'm off to Clinton."



Hamilton Issues Await Carovano

Although President Carovano does not plan any major changes in college policy, he will soon make decisions in several areas.

Carovano plans to assemble a committee to search for a replacement for Dean Stephen G. Kurtz, whose resignation is effective June 30. The committee, to be composed of faculty members, might begin work this spring, definitely by the first fall faculty meeting in September, according to the new president.

Carovano said that he expects that the dean search committee will not involve students until the "second level." Carovano said, "The faculty committee would bring in the nominees – the one, two, or three – and the students would then participate at that stage."

Hamilton is now planning a million dollar renovation of the Chemistry Building, and Carovano intends to pursue that policy. "We are fully engaged in trying to proceed on the Chemistry Department renovation, and I think we'll stick with it, and that will take us a good twelve to eighteen months before we'll be at the stage where we can say construction is underway, and we can think about something else."

A revivification of the James Library Building will be deferred, according to the president, so the college can work on the Chemistry improvements.

As a former faculty member, Carovano said that he expects his relationship with his former colleagues will be a good one. "...I still have, I think, a certain amount of goodwill from the faculty. I think that I'll have to make some decisions that are going to irritate some people, there's just no way around it. They will be reasonable decisions," the president said. "I'll try to keep everybody happy."

Carovano said he would like to foster and maintain good relationships with the student body, but he said that teaching is unfeasible. "The real question is," he said, "how one goes about having a relationship with a larger number of students. I don't know, and it's something I'm going to have to think about... It's something I'm sensitive to. In some ways, I suppose because there's been some criticism of John Chandler, in that he tried, but he somehow didn't quite do it. So, I'm certainly sensitive to it from an institutional point of view, and in terms of my own satisfaction."

In the area of student housing, Carovano said that he expects that the trustees will approve a complete internal reconstruction of the former house of Albert Wallace into student room arrangements. Renovation will also proceed in Dunham Dormitory, although the new president is not sure of the exact plans now.

Carovano Named President; Thirteen-month Search Ends

continued from page one

reconvened shortly after Sisco's January 8 withdrawal. [see analysis, this page]

Carovano, who had asked that he not be considered in the original search, reconsidered following the Sisco withdrawal.

Carovano has been associated with Hamilton since 1963, when he joined the faculty as an instructor in economics. He was promoted to assistant professor in 1965 and to associate professor in 1969. In 1971 he was named acting provost of the college and a year later was appointed provost.

A specialist in public finance, Carovano spent the 1968-69 academic year on leave from Hamilton as a financial economist in the U.S. Treasury's Office of Tax Analysis in Washington.

Carovano, who will be 39 on May 9, was born in Tacoma, Wash. A graduate of Pomona College, he holds the M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley. He was a teaching and research assistant and teaching fellow at Berkeley before coming to Hamilton.

He is married to the former Barbara Ann Bevins. They have two daughters, Kristen, 14, and Kathryn, 13. The Carovanos presently live on Griffin Road but will soon move to the President's House on College Hill Road.

One Committee, Two Searches

continued from page one

they, as academicians, could not compete with presitigious government officials.

When the second search narrowed, two of the prime candidates were academic administrators— Carovano and Charles E. Gilbert, provost of Swarthmore College.

Couper, discussing his experiences on the committee, said, "There was some reconsideration after Sisco...and we had a more catholic search."

Couper said that very early in the original search there was a lot of talk about the person "who would be comfortable with his public." Such a person would presumably have been able to act as an effective representative to constituencies in the college community, the government, and private foundations.

John Chandler, while president of Hamilton, never gained a reputation for public speaking and appearances although he was considered an effective fundraiser.

Dean Stephen G. Kurtz's resignation could only have heightened the college's desire for a president with a strong background in academia. For better or worse, Kurtz's departure will provide Carovano with the opportunity to make an important appointment of his own within his first year as president, an opportunity Chandler did not have.

Carovano must also appoint a vice-president for resources and development. He admitted that fundraising outside the college is his "weak suit" and the opportunity to appoint his own strong development officer will enable the president to add some "trump" cards to his hand.

Ironically, the searches that led Hamilton to the State Department, the Selective Service System, Dartmouth College, and Swarthmore College among other places began and ended in the birthplace of Elihu Root, Buttrick Hall. J. Martin Carovano, who has sat in the president's chair, will continue to do so, now in a permanent capacity.

Carovano's Acting Presidency

continued from page one

Carovano, who had been fulfilling the responsibilities of both acting-president and provost, appointed Associate Professor of Government Eugene Lewis acting provost.

Carovano approved a 2½ percent raise on fringe benefits to non-tenured college faculty during February, which placed Hamilton in a more competitive position in the teacher job market. Carovano had said that Hamilton's faculty compensation before the raise did not favorably compare with that of such schools as the Little Three.

Along with Acting Provost Lewis, Carovano oversaw a search for a computer suited to meet the college's administrative and educational requirements. Their final recommendation of an NCR computer, 32K capacity, with a job entry link-up with the Cornell University computer center, was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Carovano accepted earlier this month the resignation of Dean of the College, Stephen G. Kurtz, who took the post of principal at The Phillips Exeter School, in Exeter, N.H. The acting president appointed as acting dean, Dwight Lindley, professor of English and chairman of the department.

Also this spring, Carovano has taken an active interest in two different Albany bills sponsored by Assemblyman Peter Costigan, and Senators Warren Anderson and Ronald Stafford which call for substantial increases in state aid to college students. If passed, either bill would improve the financial situation of private colleges like Hamilton, whose fiscal burdens have increased during inflation.

As permanent president, Carovano will continue to transfer to Eugene Lewis the duties of provost which he held as acting president. Carovano said lightheartedly in an interview, however, that he will continue to oversee tree-planting on campus, a duty which he has held in the past.

Coleman Burke

The 16th President

The search for a permanent successor to John W. Chandler has come to a close with the choice of Hamilton's own J. Martin Carovano. Decisions which have awaited the selection of the college's 16th president will soon be made. The college can now expect the initiation of a search for a new dean of the college, appointments of provost and vice-president for resources and development, and the institution of a realigned curriculum and calendar.

In the past year, President Carovano has worked well with his colleagues on the Hamilton faculty, and with President Babbitt of Kirkland. Even in the limited decision-making capacity of an acting administrator, he has exhibited a desire to improve the college, borne out in the planned addition of a computer facility on campus and raises in faculty salaries that bring Hamilton at least to levels competitive with the college's oftentime cited peers.

As permanent president, however, Carovano will face the added fiscal burden predicted for private colleges of the 1970's and 1980's. Although self-admittedly not a public figure, the new president will have to reach into the financial community for support.

Along with congratulations for J. Martin Carovano one hopes that he will continue to improve the college while projecting a flattering image of Hamilton to the world off College Hill.

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